



# Classification of the hydroalcoholic extract of the fruit of *Vitis vinifera* L. as a novel food

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An application was submitted to the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) for classification of a hydroalcoholic extract of the fruit of *Vitis vinifera* L. as a novel food.

This food is a **hydroalcoholic extract of the fruit of *Vitis vinifera* L. (commonly known as the common grape vine)**. The fruit itself has been consumed to a significant degree by humans for centuries. The same applies to the leaves, flour and oil obtained from the grape seeds. The bud and certain grape seed extracts (containing 65% - 95% OPCs) have a consumption history in food supplements prior to 15 May 1997, whereas free fatty acids obtained from grape seed oils by enzymatic processes are considered novel.

This extract from the fruit itself is extracted with a 70:30 ethanol:water solution and contains specific phytochemicals and other constituents of *Vitis vinifera* L. in concentrated form, obtained through a defined extraction process, after which it no longer corresponds to the original composition of the fruit.

Based on the information currently available to the FSVO, there is no evidence to suggest that this specific hydroalcoholic extract of the fruit of *Vitis vinifera* L. was used as a food for human consumption to a significant degree in Switzerland or a Member State of the EU prior to 15 May 1997.

Unless evidence to the contrary is provided to demonstrate a significant history of use as a food prior to the cut-off date of 15 May 1997, and as far as the FSVO is currently aware, this extract therefore falls under the definition of novel foods stated in Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Ordinance on Foodstuffs and Utility Articles (FUAO; SR 817.02), particularly in the category

*"Food consisting of, isolated from or produced from plants or their parts"* (Art. 15 para. 1 let. d FUAO)

and is subject to the authorisation requirement under Article 17 FUAO.